

For Immediate Release Tuesday, March 25, 2003

## DOYLE TO HOST HOMELAND SECURITY TOWN MEETINGS

Forums Will Give Residents Direct Access to Local Officials

County Executive Jack Doyle today announced three town meetings to discuss local Homeland Security efforts.

Doyle's announcement was designed to address potential community concerns on public safety issues. The town meetings are intended to provide residents with an opportunity to better understand county emergency preparedness planning and operations.

"Information is a powerful tool and our town meetings are designed to bring the public critical information on our community's readiness during these times of uncertainty," said County Executive Doyle.

The scheduled town meetings are: Thursday, March 27 at the Greece Town Hall, 1 Vince Tofany Boulevard; Tuesday, April 1, Penfield Community Center, Baird Road; and Thursday, April 3 at City Place, W. Main Street. All three town meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and conclude by 9:00 p.m.

Each town meeting will include representatives from the County Departments of Public Safety, Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Services, 911 Emergency Communications, Fire Bureau, Greater Rochester International Airport, and Sheriff's Office. Additional participants will include the American Red Cross and the Monroe County Water Authority. All agency representatives will be available throughout the town meetings to answer questions one-on-one in a relaxed and informal setting.

"Direct access to emergency preparedness, public safety and other officials will provide residents with a forum to ask questions and get information to reduce any fears they may have regarding their safety" said Doyle. "Town meetings are a great forum to answer questions and to reassure everyone that we are well prepared for any possibility – natural or manmade."

Working with a wide range of agencies over the years, Monroe County's Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) has developed emergency response plans and contingencies for virtually every possible incident (from floods and blizzards to chemical spills or even acts of terrorism).

###

For further information, call: Communications & Special Events at 428-2380 See us on the web at www.monroecounty.gov